

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No. 26.2.D09/USA

In re Application of:)
Steven J. Svoboda et al.)
Serial No. 10/795,789)
Filed 03/08/2004) Group Art Unit 1744
For BLOWER/VAC DEBRIS) Examiner
COLLECTION SYSTEM WITH)
COLLECTION BAG ON)
MOVABLE WHEELED CART)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicants wish to bring the prior art references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office.

A concise explanation of the relevance of the reference is additionally provided as follows:

U.S. Patent Re 36,627 discloses a blower/vac and is the patent incorporated by reference in the above-identified patent application.

Black & Decker BV-006 Leaf Collection System comprises an elongated hose and a trash can cover having a drawstring.

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Certificate under 37 C.F.R. 1.8. I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage with the U.S. Postal Service, as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 9/16/04.

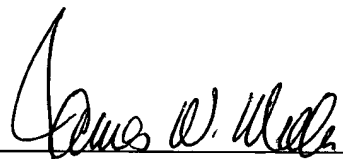

James W. Miller

The trash can cover can be placed over the top of a trash can and the drawstring can be tightened to secure the cover to the top of the trash can. When the hose is connected to the blower/vac, debris being picked up by the blower/vac will be discharged through the hose and through the cover into the trash can. Note that the trash can could have wheels as many modern trash cans do.

The website materials showing the Black & Decker BV-006 Leaf Collection System are undated, but the Applicants ADMIT THAT THE BLACK & DECKER BV-006 LEAF COLLECTION SYSTEM COM-PRISES PRIOR ART TO THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED PATENT APPLICATION. In view of such admission, the Examiner is required to consider this prior art despite the absence of dated materials relating to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

September 16, 2004



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